

VISION 2030 UPDATE !

Vision 2030 was unveiled a year ago for the betterment of the Waseca Community. It is not a City government project, but rather a grassroots undertaking. During the past year, four Action Teams have begun working on the four pillars of the Vision 2030 Road Map. Here is a snap-

shot of what has been happening so far. Jim Boerboom has led the effort with the Action Teams.

Create High Quality Community Assets: Designation of a Downtown Historic District is underway, working with the Heritage Preservation Commission.

Expand and Leverage Economic Development Initiatives: A Hemp Summit was held February 13, 2019, to discuss ways to expand

production and processing of industrial hemp – which is NOT marijuana. Thom Peterson, Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture attended, along with people from the University of Minnesota, AURI, and private individuals.

Strengthen Regional Connectivity: Initial efforts are working with specialty shops to encourage joint promotions that will attract shoppers to all cities in Waseca County.

Create a Vibrant Dynamic Community: A Wellness Day was held February 23, 2019. Attention will be given to outdoor recreation areas as a start for this team.

More people are needed – it's your community to make it as you wish. Want to join an Action Team? Contact Ranae Schult at 507.835.9725 or ranaes@ci.waseca.mn.us She will get you signed up. The full Vision 2030 report is available at ci.waseca.mn.us/2018/03/waseca-vision-2030-report/

2019 SPRING CLEANUP

Starting Monday, May 13th the City of Waseca will provide free pickup of brush. All materials must be on the curb by 7:00 a.m., May 13th to be included in the pick-up. There are several regulations that must be met for the material to be picked up.

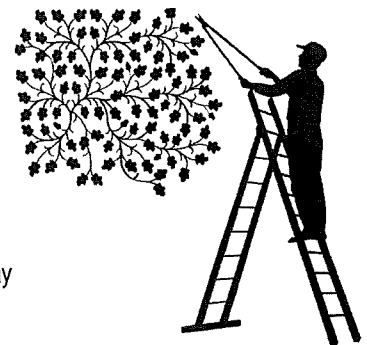
- Brush must be piled on the curb - crews will not enter on private property to pick up the brush.
No material other than brush shall be placed in the brush pile.
Animal waste, garbage, demolition material, lumber, etc. **will not be accepted.** Any inclusion of any excluded materials will result in the whole pile being left. Crews will not sort piles.
- A limit of one dump truck load per address will be in effect. Any more than one dump truck load will be left on the curb.
No tree branches over 8" in diameter or material over 8' in length will be taken.
- All limbs and branches must be placed parallel to the curb.

The City of Waseca will not be responsible for turf damage caused by this service.

Because this is a costly service in terms of manpower and equipment, it will be a one-time only service. As a result, if the material is not on the curb by 7:00 a.m., May 13th, we cannot guarantee that it will be picked up. The crews will make only one pass on each street to pick up the material. There are many other jobs that the crews will be involved with and as a result, we will not be able to return to make special pick-ups.

This is an opportunity for residents to clean up their trees and bushes and have the material hauled away for them. Let's all take advantage of this opportunity to clean up our yards and our community!

Keep in mind there will be an expanded FALL pick-up of leaves scheduled at a later date and advertised in the City Newsletter & Website.



Considering a Home Improvement Project?

DON'T FORGET A BUILDING PERMIT!

Your project may require a building permit. Permits are required for new additions and remodeling, finishing a basement, re-roofing, re-siding, window replacement, decks, porches, plumbing, heating, electrical work, garages and more. Getting a building permit helps you to ensure that your project meets safety and building code standards; there is a penalty for starting construction prior to the issuance of a building permit. In addition to permits, please contact the Planning Department for information on set-back requirements, lot coverage, fences, shore-land regulations and other useful information. We encourage you to call with any questions about construction projects being considered or already in progress, at 835-9700.

SAVE MONEY THIS SUMMER ON ENERGY COSTS

- Volunteer your central air conditioner for the load management program. Waseca Utilities will have a licensed electrician install a
- controller unit on your central air conditioner, at no cost to you the customer. The controller unit cycles your air conditioner compressor
- off for short periods of time during peak electrical usage. Residential participants in the load management program will receive an \$8.00
- monthly credit on the June, July, August and September electric bills or a total savings of \$32.00 for the year. Commercial participants
- will receive a \$20.00 monthly credit for the same months or a total savings of \$80.00 for the year.

If you participated in the program last year, you do not need to contact us unless you have moved since last summer. If you have not moved, you will automatically receive the credit each year unless otherwise notified.

For additional information, please contact the Utility Billing Department at 835-9718.
Business hours are Monday – Friday - 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



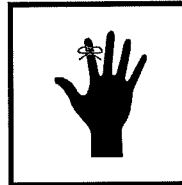
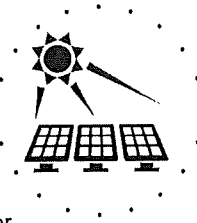
PEAK ALERT

You have the power to help keep electricity costs down. A Peak Alert means Waseca Utilities is nearing our peak electrical demand for the year. Our electrical peak is the amount of power we use during the time when our power supplier, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPPA) experiences their annual peak. This peak usually occurs on very hot days during the months of June through September between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. – Monday – Friday. Waseca Utilities will announce a **Peak Alert** by all means possible.

By helping to reduce our peak electrical demand, you can help keep electricity rates low. Please conserve energy and keep your electrical usage to a minimum by using major electrical appliances before 11:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. on **Peak Alert** days. Also, set your air conditioner no lower than 78F and dehumidifier no lower than 78% between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

SOLAR POWER

In compliance with the City of Waseca's Solar and Small Power Generation Policy relating to electric power production, the City of Waseca is required to work with small electric power producers, such as a residential solar installation. The City of Waseca must provide information regarding rates and installation requirements free of charge to all interested customers upon request. All installations require an application, review, and approval from the City. Interested customers should contact Debbie Carlson at (507)835-9718 or debc@ci.waseca.mn.us or visit the City's website at www.ci.waseca.mn.us.



SUMP PUMP REMINDER

As we approach the spring rain season and the melt of the considerable snow cover, property owners are reminded that per Waseca City Code §52.02, it is unlawful to connect sump pump outlets or any other conductor of natural precipitation or ground water to the sanitary sewer system. The sanitary sewer system is not designed to carry this clear water, and sump pumps that are illegally connected to the sanitary sewer system contribute to sewer backups and overloading of the City Treatment Plant. Property owners should be aware that with the heavy snow fall and above normal temperatures this winter, sumps may be running earlier than normal. It is common after winter that many sump pump outlets are frozen or plugged. If this is the case, the sump pump outflow shall be piped to either the yard or City storm sewer if available. In no case should pipe cross property lines, be connected to an unauthorized sanitary sewer or storm water drainage system, or cause a nuisance to the public right-of-way including streets and sidewalks



WATER UTILITY ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The Water Utility Annual Consumer Confidence Report, as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), will be included as an insert with the June utility bill. This report provides water quality information about the drinking water that the City Water Utility delivers to your home and business.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Utilities Director at City Hall at 835-9718.

Fresh clean drinking water is yours to use whenever you need it, but not to waste. It's too valuable. Remember that a little effort and a little common sense will make a big difference!



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Protect yourselves and your property against underground utility damage. Gopher State One Call is Minnesota's one-call center for the excavating community. Homeowners, excavators and contractors must contact Gopher State One Call 48 business hours prior to any excavation. They will, in turn, contact participating utility operators who will then locate and mark where the underground utilities might be buried. This is a free service. You may reach Gopher State One Call by phone (800)252-1166 or online at gopherstateonecall.org.



PLANNING TO BUILD A SHED? BE SURE TO KNOW THE GUIDELINES!

To put up an accessory structure (shed) on your property, it will need to go through a zoning review, regardless of the size. If your shed is 120 square feet or greater it will require a building permit and shall have exterior color and roof pitch compatible with the principle building (house). Additional guidelines include; size, height, setbacks, and number of structures allowed.

Questions can be directed to Bill Green – 835-9738

UTILITY BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

Checks and money orders (no cash) can be dropped off in the drive up silver payment box on the North side of the City Hall building at 508 State St S. Payments are collected early morning (approximately 6:30 a.m.) from Monday – Friday.

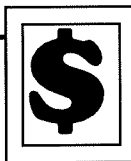
You can save time and money by signing up for the automatic bank payment program. Once you authorize the withdrawal, your monthly utility payment will be deducted from your checking or savings account on the 15th of each month and transferred to Waseca Utilities. This will eliminate the need to mail or deliver a check to the Utility Billing office. Enrollment forms can be obtained from the Utility Billing office or by visiting the City of Waseca's website at www.ci.waseca.mn.us.

Another option is the Payment Service Network (PSN) system. Customers set up an account and can schedule payment amounts and payment dates. You can also review your monthly utility bills. Contact the Utility Billing office for information on this payment method.

You can also make your payments in person at the Utility Billing office during regular business hours, or mail your payments to City Hall. We also accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover payments both in person at the Utility Billing office and by phone. All payments must be received in the Utility Billing office by the 15th of the month to be considered on time. Please allow for this deadline when mailing payments or initiating internet banking transactions. Any payment received after the due date will be subject to a 10% late fee.

Please contact Waseca Utilities at 835-9718 – Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for more information.

PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE



If you are having difficulty paying your utility bill, we urge you to contact the Utility Billing office and discuss the option of setting up a payment plan. Utility Billing staff will look at your account balance and consumption history and work out a payment plan that fits your payroll dates and will get your account caught up. We encourage you to be proactive with your account; don't wait until you are facing the possibility of disconnection of your utilities. Contact the Utility Billing office at 835-9718 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

BULLETIN BOARD

MOSQUITO SPRAYING SCHEDULE

The City of Waseca would like to try to keep your summer nights a little more enjoyable with fewer mosquitos! The City will be spraying for mosquitos on all City streets, trails and parks beginning at 9:00 p.m. until finished on the following dates, weather permitting:

May 22, 29 • June 12, 26
July 3, 10, 24 • August 7, 21, 28

In case of inclement weather, the spraying will take place the next available evening. If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 835-9700.

FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS:

If fireworks are legal where you live and you decide to set them off on your own, be sure to follow these important safety tips:

- Observe local laws.
- Keep a bucket of water handy in case of a malfunction or fire.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks. Never shoot a firework at or near another person.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves, and flammable materials.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned. Douse and soak them with water and throw them away.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially a glass or metal container.
- Keep unused fireworks away from firing areas.
- Store fireworks in a dry, cool place. Check instructions for special storage directions.

REMINDER!



As a courtesy to your City workers, and to streamline the work they need to do to keep the City looking beautiful, please keep these things in mind this summer:

- Try to keep your garbage cans out of the street – this will allow the street sweeper to clean the entire street.
- During City-wide brush and leaf pick up, please do not park your cars in front of the brush/leaf pile, or the City will be unable to pick up your brush/leaves.

Thank you!

GRILLING FIRE SAFETY TIPS:

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces such as tents, they pose a fire hazard and a risk of exposing occupants to deadly carbon monoxide poisoning.



- Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas, and foot traffic. Grills should be positioned at least 10 feet away from siding, deck railing, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

- Keep matches, lighters, and starter fluid out of the reach of children in a locked drawer or cabinet.

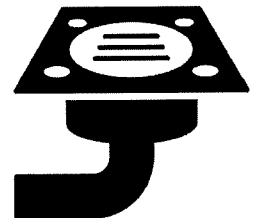
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area: declare a three-foot "kid-free zone" around the grill.

- Use long barbeque mitts and long-handled grilling tools to protect the chef from heat and flames when cooking.

- Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below the grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.

STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

The storm sewer system consists of curbs, drain pipes, tile and catch basins in the streets which are intended to carry large amounts of surface runoff. Storm water flows untreated into regional wetlands, ponds, lakes and streams. Therefore, any debris (grass, leaves, fertilizer, pet waste, chemicals, etc.) that makes it into the storm drains, ends up polluting our water resources. Pollution prevention by the general public can make a big difference in keeping Waseca's water resources clean and healthy. Per City Code, it is also illegal to put your grass clippings in City streets.



PLEASE HELP EMERGENCY RESPONSE FIND YOU!

Please check your house & commercial property to assure that it is correctly addressed and can be readily identified by Emergency Response personnel. Every principle residential building shall have address numbers that are a minimum of 4 inches in height. Commercial, industrial and multi-family dwellings (4 units or more) shall have address numbers that are a minimum of six inches in height. All address numbers shall be visible from the street and shall be in contrasting color from the principle structure, made of reflective material or illuminated.

